

Oxford Democrat.

No. 41, Vol. 3, New Series.

Paris, Maine, Tuesday, February 20, 1844.

Old Series. No. 52, Vol. 11.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT,

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY

George W. Eklund,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:—One Dollar and Fifty cents in advance. Advertisements inserted on reasonable terms. The Proprietor not being accountable for any error beyond the amount charged for the advertisement. A reasonable deduction will be made for cash in advance, and no credit will be given for a longer period than three months.

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POLITICAL.

WITHDRAWAL OF MR. CALHOUN.

ROOM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE,
January 3, 1844.

To the Editors of the Mercury:

We inclose to you for publication a letter to us and an address from the Hon. J. C. Calhoun to his friends and supporters, giving his reasons for withdrawing his name as a candidate for the Presidency, from the Convention which is to assemble in Baltimore on the 4th Monday in May next.

In placing this document in your hands for publication, it is proper to state, that although transmitted to this Committee, to be through them submitted to the public, the absence of many of its members prevented the assembling of a quorum until this day, when its publication was directed in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Calhoun.

PORT HILL, Dec. 21, 1843.

GENTLEMEN: I enclose you, as the organs of those who have nominated me for the Presidency in the State subject to a Convention fairly constituted, an address to my political friends and supporters, assigning my reasons for not permitting my name to go before the proposed Convention to be held in Baltimore in May next. I transmit it to you, because I deem it respectful and proper to make it known to those to whom it is addressed, through you, and in order to afford you an opportunity to take such measures in relation to it as you may deem proper, if indeed, you should deem any necessary. All I have to request is, that its publication should not be unnecessarily delayed.

With great respect, I am, &c. &c.

(Signed) J. C. CALHOUN.
Hon. Jacob B. Fox,
And other members of the Committee.

ADDRESS OF MR. CALHOUN TO HIS POLITICAL FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS.

I have left it to you my friends and supporters, through whose favorable estimate of my qualifications my name has been presented to the people of the United States, for the office of chief magistrate to conduct the canvass on such principles and in such manner, as you might think best. But in so doing, I did not waive my right to determine, on my individual responsibility, what course my duty might compel me to pursue ultimately, nor have I been an inattentive observer of the canvass and the course you have taken.

It affords me pleasure to be enabled to say that on all leading questions, growing out of the canvass, I heartily concurred with you in the grounds you took, and especially those relating to the mode in which the delegates to the proposed convention to be held in Baltimore, should be appointed, and how they should vote. You have in my opinion, conclusively shown that they should be appointed by districts and vote per capita, but your reasons, conclusive as they are, have proved in vain. Already New York and some other States have appointed delegates en masse by State Convention, and one State (Virginia) has resolved that the votes of her delegates shall be settled by the majority and not counted per capita. Their course would necessarily overrule that which you have so ably supported should you go into convention, and would leave you no alternative but to yield yours and adopt theirs however much you may be opposed to it on principle, or to meet them on the most unequal terms, with divided, against united and concentrated forces.

The question is, then, what course under such circumstances should be adopted. And that question you will be compelled speedily to decide. The near approach of the time for meeting of the proposed convention will not admit of much longer delay. But as your course may depend to some degree on that which I have decided to take, I deem it due to the relation subsisting between us, to make mine known to you without further delay. I, then, after the most careful and deliberate survey of the ground, have decided that I cannot permit my name to go before the proposed convention, constituted as it must now be, consistently with the principles which have ever guided my public conduct. My objections are insuperable. As it must be constituted, it is repugnant to all the principles on which, in my opinion, such a convention should be formed. What those principles are, I shall now proceed briefly to state.

I hold, then, with you, that the convention should be so constituted as to utter fully and clearly the voice of the people, and not that of political managers or office holders and office seekers; and for that purpose I hold it indispensable that the delegates should be appointed directly by the people, or, to use the language of General Jackson, should be "fresh from the people." I also hold that the only possible mode to effect this, is for the people to choose the delegates by districts, and that they should vote per capita. Every other mode of appointing would be controlled by political machinery, and place the appointments in the hands of the few who work it.

object, then, to the proposed convention, because it will not be constituted in conformity with this fundamental article of the republican creed.

The delegates to it will be appointed from some of the States, not by the people in districts, but as has been stated, by State Conventions en masse, composed of delegates appointed in all cases, as far as I am informed, by county or district Conventions, and in some cases, if not misinformed, these again composed of delegates appointed by still smaller divisions, or a few interested individuals. Instead, then, of being directly or fresh from the people, the delegates to the Baltimore convention will be the delegates of the delegates, and of course removed in all cases, at least three if not four, degrees from the people. At each successive remove, the voice of the people will become less full and distinct, until at last it will be so faint and imperfect as not to be audible. To drop metaphor, I hold it impossible to form a scheme more perfectly calculated to annihilate the control of the people over the Presidential election, and vest it in those who make politics a trade, and who live, or expect to live, on the Government.

In this connection, I object not less strongly to the mode in which Virginia has resolved her delegates shall vote. With all due respect, I must say I can imagine nothing more directly in conflict with the principles of our Federal system of Government, or to use a broader expression, the principles on which all confederated communities have ever been united. I hazard nothing in saying that there is not an instance in our political history, from the meeting of the first Revolutionary Congress to the present day, of the Delegates of any State voting by majority and counting per capita; nor do I believe an instance of the kind can be found in the history of any confederated community. There is, indeed, something monstrous in the idea of giving the majority the right of impressing the vote of the minority into its service, and counting them as its own. The plain rule—that which has ever prevailed, and which conforms to the dictates of common sense—is that where a State votes as a State, by a majority of its Delegates, the votes count one, be they few or many, or the State large or small. On the contrary, where the votes of all the Delegates are counted, they vote individually and independently, each for himself counting one. And it is to be noted, that wherever this latter mode of voting exists among confederated States, it is in all cases founded on compact, to which the consent of each State is required. In the absence of compact, the inevitable mode of voting in such States is in all cases, by the majority, their vote counting one. The course which Virginia has resolved to take, is in violation of this plain and fundamental rule, and if it should become a settled practice, would be destructive of the foundation on which the whole structure of the State Right doctrine is reared.

I hold, in the next place, to be an indispensable principle, that the Convention should be so constituted, as to give to each State, in the nomination of a candidate, the same relative weight, which the Constitution secures to it in the election of the President, making due allowance for its relative party strength. By the election, I mean the whole, the eventual choice, when it goes into the House of Representatives, as well as the primary vote in the electoral college. The one is as much a part of the election as the other. The two make the whole. The adoption of the one, in the Convention, which framed the Constitution, depended on the adoption of the other. Neither could possibly be adopted alone. The two were the result of compromise between the larger and smaller States, after a long and doubtful struggle, which threatened the loss of the Constitution itself. The object of giving to the smaller States an equality with the larger, in the eventual choice by the House, was to counterpoise the preponderance of the larger in the electoral college. Without this, the smaller would have voted against the whole provision, and its rejection would have been the consequence. Even as it stands, Delaware voted against it. In confirmation of what I state, I refer to Mr. Madison's report on the proceedings of the Convention.

Having stated what I mean by the election, it will require but a few words to explain my reasons for the principles I have laid down. They are few and simple, and rest on the ground that the nomination is in reality the election, if conducted in, as far as the party is concerned, it is so intended to be. The leading reason assigned for making it, is to prevent a division of the party, and thereby prevent the election from going into the House, where the smaller States would have the advantage intended to be secured to them by the Constitution, by being placed on an equality with the larger.

Such being the intended object and effect, I now submit to every candid mind, whether the Convention ought not to be so constituted, as to compensate in the nomination for the important advantage in the election, which the smaller States surrender by going into a Convention. Would it not be unfair—a palpable want of good faith—and subversive of the compromise of the Constitution—to withhold it? Or, if demanded, would it be short of an insult to refuse it? Can it be thought, that the smaller States are so debased and absorbed in the party politics of the day, as to permit themselves to be thus indirectly stripped of a right, which their high-minded and patriotic ancestors held so dear, as even to prefer the loss of the Constitution itself, rather than surrender it?

I object, then, to the proposed Convention, in this connection, because it makes no compensation to the smaller States for the surrender of their unquestionable and important constitutional right.

Instead of that, its advocates preposterously and indignantly refuse any, and treat with scorn every attempt to secure it. Some have even gone so far as to deny, that the eventual choice of the House constitutes any portion of the election; and to manifest open hostility against the provision of the Constitution which contains it.

If there was no other objection, the one under consideration would be insuperable with me. I differ utterly from the advocates of the proposed Convention, in reference to this provision. I regard it as one of the first importance, not because I desire the election to go into the House, but because I believe it to be an indispensable means, in the hands of the smaller States, of preserving their just and constitutional weight in the Presidential election, and through that, in the Executive Department and the Government itself, which I believe to be essential to the preservation of our sublime federal system. I regard the adjustment of the relative weight of the States in the Government to be the fundamental compromise of the Constitution, and that on which our whole political system depends. Its adjustment constituted the great difficulty in forming the Constitution. The principle on which it was finally effected was, that while due concession should be made to population, a provision should be also made, in some form, to preserve the original equality of the States in every department of the Government. The principle was early carried out in constituting the legislative department, by preserving the equality of the States in one branch, (the Senate,) and conceding to populations its full preponderance in the other. But the great and difficult task of reducing it to practice was, in the Executive Department, at the head of which there is but a single officer. So great was it, that it occupied the attention of the Convention, from time to time, during the whole session, and was very near causing a failure at last. It would have been an easy task to constitute that department, either on the principle of the equality of the States in the Government, or that of population. To combine the two, in the election of a single officer, was quite a different affair; but however difficult, it had to be performed, at the hazard of losing the Constitution.

It was finally accomplished, by giving to the larger States nearly the same preponderance in the electoral college, as they have in the House, and to the smaller, in the event of a choice by the House, the same equality they possess in the Senate; thus following closely the analogy of the Legislative Department. To make it as close as possible, it was at first proposed to give the eventual choice to the Senate instead of the House, but it was altered, and the present provision adopted, for reasons which did not affect the principle.

It was believed by the framers, the practical operation of the provision would be, that the electoral college, in which the influence of the larger States preponderates, would nominate and that the House voting by States, where their equality is preserved, would elect who should be the President. To give it that operation in practice, the provision, as it originally stood in the Constitution, was that each elector should vote for two individuals, without discriminating which should be President or Vice President, and if no one had a majority of the whole votes, then out of the five highest, the House voting by States, should elect one, and the person not elected, having the highest number of votes, should be the Vice President. It has been since altered, so that the electors should designate which should be President, and which Vice President, and the selection of the House was limited to the three highest. It is manifest, that if this provision of the Constitution had been left to operate by itself, without the intervention of caucuses or party conventions between the people and the election, that the practical operation would have been such as I have stated, and such as was clearly intended by the framers of the Constitution.

The object intended is important. The preservation of the relative weight of the States, as established by the Constitution in all the Departments, is necessary to the success and duration of our system of Government; but it may be doubted, whether the provision adopted to effect it in the Executive Department, is not too refined for the strong, and I may add, corrupt passions, which the Presidential election will ever excite. Certain it is, that if the practice of nominating candidates for the Presidency, by Conventions constituted as they proposed, shall become the established usage, it will utterly defeat the intention of the framers of the Constitution, and would be followed by a radical and dangerous change, not only in the Executive Department, but in the Government itself.

This danger was early foreseen, and to avoid it, some of the wisest and most experienced statesmen of former days so strongly objected to Congressional caucuses to nominate candidates for the Presidency, that they never could be induced to attend them among these it will be sufficient to name Mr. Macon and Mr. Lowndes. Others, believing that this provision of the Constitution was too refined for practice, were solicited to amend it, but without impairing the influence of the smaller States in the election. Among these I rank myself. With that object resolutions were introduced, in 1823, in the Senate, by Col. Benton, and in the House by Mr. McDuffie, providing for districting the States and for referring the election back to the people, in case there should be no choice, to elect one from the two highest candidates. The principle which governed the amendment proposed, was to give a fair compensation to the smaller States for the surrender of their advantage in the eventual choice by the House, and at the same time to make the mode of electing the President more

strictly in conformity with the principles of our popular institutions, and to be less liable to corruption, than the existing provision. They received the general support of the party, but were objected to by a few, as not being a full equivalent to the smaller States. The principle embraced is identical with that on which you proposed to constitute the Baltimore Convention, but which has been so dictatorially objected to by some, who then took so prominent a part in its favor. If you have not succeeded, there is at least some consolation in reflecting, that if others have since changed, you now stand where you then did, in the purer and better days of the party. I was in favor of it then, as I am now, not because I consider the resolution of perfect, theoretically, as the existing provisions of the Constitution, but because I believed it would in practice more certainly accomplish what the framers of the Constitution intended. But while the provision stands as it does, I would regard myself as little short of a traitor to that sacred instrument, should I give my assent, directly or indirectly, to any practice which would have the effect of divesting the smaller States of the due weight which it secures to them in the Presidential election, whether designed or not. And here let me add, that as objectionable as I think a Congressional caucus for nominating a President; it is in my opinion, far less so, than a convention constituted as is proposed. The former had indeed many things to recommend it. Its members, consisting the Senators and Representatives, were the immediate organs of the State Legislatures, or the people; were responsible to them, respectively and were, for the most part, of high character, standing, and talents. They voted per capita, and what is very important, they represented fairly the relative strength of the party in their respective States. In all these important particulars, it was all that could be desired for a nominating body, and formed a striking contrast to the proposed Convention; and yet, it could not be borne by the people in the then purer days of the Republic. I, acting with General Jackson and most of the leaders of the party at the time, contributed to put it down, because we believed it to be liable to be acted on and influenced by the patronage of the Government; an objection far more applicable to a convention constituted as the one proposed, than to a Congressional caucus. Far, however, was it from my intention, in aiding to put that down, to substitute in its place what I regard as an hundred times more objectionable in every point of view. Indeed, if there must be an intermediate body between the people and the election, unknown to the Constitution, it may be well questioned whether a better than the old plan of a Congressional caucus can be devised.

In taking the ground I have, in favor of maintaining the right secured to the smaller States by the compromise of the Constitution, I am actuated by no partisan feeling or desire to conciliate their good opinion. If the case was reversed, and the rights of the larger, instead of the smaller, were invaded, I would with equal readiness and firmness, stand up in their defence. I am the partisan of neither one nor the other, but simply a supporter of the Constitution, and what I believe to be just and fair. I regard the Constitution as the only ark of safety for all, and I believe that in defending it, I defend the interest and safety of each and all—the greater as well as the smaller—the States invading the right of the others, as well as the States whose rights are invaded.

I have laid down the principle, on which I rest the objection in question, with the limitation, that the relative weight of the States should be maintained, making due allowance for their relative party strength. The propriety of the limitation is so apparent, that but a few words, in illustration, will be required. The Convention is a party Convention, and professedly intended to take the sense of the party, which cannot be done fairly, if States having but little party strength, are put on an equality with those which have much. If that were done, the result might be that a small portion of the party from States the least sound, politically, and which could give but little support in Congress, might select the candidate, and make the President, against a great majority of the soundest, and on which the President and his administration would have to rely for support. All this is clearly too unfair and improper to be denied. There may be a great difficulty in applying a remedy in a Convention, but I do not feel myself called upon to say how it can be done, or by what standard the relative party strength of the respective States should be determined; perhaps the best would be their relative strength in Congress at the time. I added the limitation for the sake of accuracy, and to show how imperfectly the party must be represented, when it is overlooked. I see no provision in the proposed Convention to meet it.

But in order to realize how the Convention will operate, it will be necessary to view the combined effects of the objections which I have made. Thus viewed, it will be found, that a Convention so constituted, tends irresistibly to centralization—centralization of the control over the Presidential election in the hands of a few of the central, large States, at first, and finally, in political managers, office holders and office seekers; or to express it differently, in that portion of the community, who live, or expect to live, on the Government, in contradistinction to the great mass, who expect to live on their own means, or their honest industry; and who maintain the Government, and, politically speaking, emphatically govern the people.

That such would be the case, may be inferred from the fact, that it would afford the means to some six or seven States, lying contiguous and

not far from the centre of the Union, to control the nomination, and through that the election, by concentrating their united votes in the Convention. Give them the power of doing so, and it would not long lie dormant. What may be done by combination, where the temptation is so great, will be sure, ere long, to be done. The combined power is, concerned, than to "Divide and conquer." Nothing is better established, than that the desire for power can bring together and unite the most discordant materials.

But the tendency to centralization will not stop there. The appointment of Delegates en masse by State Convention, would tend, at the same time and even with greater force, to centralize this control in the hands of the few, who make politics a trade. The father the Convention is removed from the people, the more certainly the control over it will be placed in the hands of the interested few; and when removed three or four degrees, as has been shown it will be, where the appointment is by State Conventions, the power of the people will cease, and the seekers of Executive favor will become supreme. At that stage, an active, trained, and combined corps will be formed in the party, whose whole time and attention will be directed to politics. It will be their sole business. Into their hands, the appointment of Delegates, in all the States, will fall, and they will take special care that none but themselves or their humble and obedient dependents shall be appointed. The central and State Conventions will be filled by the most experienced and cunning; and after nominating the President, they will take good care to divide the patronage and offices, both of the General and State Governments among themselves and their dependants. But why say more? As it is not ready the case? Have there not been many instances of State Conventions being filled by office seekers, who, after making the nomination, have divided the offices in the State among themselves and their partisans, and joined in recommending to the candidate whom they have just nominated to appoint them to the offices to which they have been respectively allotted. If such be the case in the infancy of the system, it must end, if such conventions should become the established usage, in the President nominating his successor. When it comes to that, it will not be long before the sword will take the place of the Constitution. Such are my objections to the mode in which the proposed Convention is to be constituted; and my reasons for entertaining them. They are such, that I cannot refuse to obey them without renouncing the principles which I have often avowed in public and private, and which have guided me through the whole course of my public life.

In coming to this conclusion, I have not passed over, without careful examination, the reasons assigned by its advocates for constituting the Convention as they propose. They have not diminished the force of my objections. I propose to notice the most prominent:

That which they have urged with the greatest confidence, is, that each State has a right to appoint Delegates as she pleased. I meet it, by utterly denying that there is any such right. That each State has the right to act as it pleases, in whatever relates to itself exclusively, no one will deny; but it is a perfectly novel doctrine, that any State has such a right, when she comes to act in concert with others in reference to what concerns the whole. In such cases it is the plainest dictate of common sense, that whatever affects the whole, should be regulated by the consent of all, and not by the discretion of each. That the appointment of Delegates to the proposed Convention is a case of this description, I trust I have conclusively shown. I have, I also trust, shown more; that the supposed right is perfectly deceptive; for while it claims for each State the right to appoint Delegates as it pleases, it in reality gives the larger States the right to dictate how the others shall appoint. If, by example, the Empire State, as it is called, adopts the mode of appointing, (as she has,) which will concentrate her whole strength, what discretion would she leave to others, if they go into Convention, but to appoint as she has appointed, or to be ruled by her. It is then, neither more nor less than a claim to dictate, under the garb of a right, and such its exercise has proved in the present case. It has left no option; but to conform to her course, or be overruled, or refuse to go into the Convention.

I regret this, because I sincerely desire to preserve the harmony of the party. I had strong hope that the rally after the defeat of 1840 would be exclusively on principles. This hope was greatly strengthened by the truly Republican and noble stand, taken at the extra session and the earlier portion of the succeeding regular session. During that period of rigid adherence to principle, perfect harmony pervaded the ranks of the party. I beheld it with joy. I believed the moment highly favorable for the thorough reformation of the Government and the restoration of the Constitution. To the Republican party, I looked for the accomplishment of this great work; and I accordingly felt the deepest solicitude, that the stand taken, and the harmony which existed, should be preserved. In order that it should, I made up my mind to waive the objection, which I have long entertained to any intermediate body, unknown to the Constitution, between the people and the election of the President, in the hope that the proposed Convention would be so constituted that I might, consistently with my principles, give it my support. In this I have been disappointed, and being so, I am compelled to decide as I have done. The same motives which impelled me to separate from the administration of Gen. Jackson in the plenitude of its power, and to come to the rescue of Mr. Van Buren at its greatest depression,

men, compels me now to withhold my name from the present convention.

Having now assigned my reasons for refusing to permit my name to go before the Baltimore Convention, it rests with you who have placed it before the people, and assented to abide by a convention fairly constituted, to determine what course you will pursue.

By your decision what I may, I shall be content. But I regard it as due to the occasion, to you and myself, to declare that under no circumstances whatever shall I support any candidate who is opposed to free trade, and in favor of the protective policy, or whose prominent and influential supporters are. I hold the policy to be another name for a system of monopoly and plunder, and to be thoroughly anti-Republican and Federal in its character. I also hold that so long as the duties are so laid as to be in fact bounties to one portion of the community, while they are oppressive on the other, there can be no hope that the Government can be reformed or that its expenditures will be reduced to the proper standard.

Were I, with the evidences before me, to say otherwise of my course, it would be, practically, to declare that I regard the protective policy to be an open question, so far as the party is concerned, which I would consider, on my part a virtual abandonment of the cause of Free Trade. That can never be. I have done and suffered too much for it, when its friends were few and feeble, to abandon it now—now, when the auspices, every where on this, and the other side of the Atlantic, proclaim the approaching downfall of protection and the permanent triumph of Free Trade.

I, who upheld it against monopoly and plunder, in the worst times, and braved the menaces of Administration and Opposition, when packed by a single state—will not—cannot abandon the glorious cause now when its banner waves in proud triumph over the metropolis of the commercial world.

I shall maintain immovably the ground I have so long occupied, until I have witnessed its great and final victory, if it shall please the Disposer of Events to spare my life so long. It will be, indeed a victory—the harbinger of a new and brighter and higher civilization.

Much less, still, can I give my support to any candidate who shall give his aid or countenance to the agitation of abolition in Congress or elsewhere; or whose prominent and influential supporters and friends shall. I doubt the sincerity of any man who declares he is no abolitionist, while at the same time he aids or countenances the agitation of the question, be his pretext what it may. If we have a right to our slaves we have a right to hold them in quiet. If the constitution guarantees one, it guarantees the other; and if it forbids the one from being attacked, it equally forbids the other. Indeed, the one stands to the other as means to an end, and is avowed by the abolitionists, and on the plainest principles of morals, if end be prohibited, the means of effecting it also are. Of the two, I regard the deluded fanatic far less guilty and dangerous than he who, for political or party purpose, aids or countenances him in what he knows is intended to do that which he acknowledges is forbidden by the constitution.

It is time that an end should be put to this system of agitation and plunder. They have been borne long enough. They are kindred measures and hostile, as far as at least one portion of the country is concerned. While the tariff takes from us the proceeds of our labor, abolition strikes at the labor itself. The one robs us of our income while the other aims at destroying the source from which that income is derived. It is impossible for us to stand patiently much longer, under their double operation without being impoverished or ruined.

JOHN C. CALHOUN.

Painful Disclosures. A man named Judd has been for some time officiating as a minister of God over a congregation whose place of meeting is at the corner of Filley and Barbary streets. The basement of his building is composed of several departments used for purposes connected with the church. One of these apartments has written over the door the "Rev. Mr. Judd's study." It was the practice of this man to pass much of his time in his study, and he frequently even had his meals brought there. The little girls connected with the Sunday school, on certain days in the week were in the habit of visiting their Pastor in his study, for the ostensible purpose of reciting lessons in catechism. We cannot stain our paper by publishing the details of the revolting conduct of this impious villain towards the children he thus entrapped into his infamous den. Suffice it to say many parents are almost heart broken at the horrors inflicted on their children, and many little children of too tender an age fully to comprehend the enormities practised upon them, are trembling with fear at the distress which so bitterly saddens their parents.

Judd has left Brooklyn, and we are informed, has gone to New Brunswick. [Brooklyn Advertiser.]

At a meeting of the church members in a town somewhere down east, to take into consideration the low state of religion and to endeavor to ascertain if the cause were not the lack of spiritual grace among the professors, Deacon S. arose and said that "although he had enjoyed the reputation of a holy man for many years, and had probably been looked up to by many of his neighbors as an example worthy of imitation, he felt compelled to confess how unworthy he was of that name and character. He felt himself to be wanting in sincerity in much that he professed; he had been avicious and hard hearted; had frequently overreached his neighbors bargaining with them, and been insensible to the appeals of the destitute for assistance. He felt himself to be a very great sinner in deed, and he begged the prayers of his brethren." Mr. B. rose and said he had listened with the most pleasing emotions to the candid avowals of brother S. and lest there should be doubts in the minds of any as to the sincerity of his confessions, he would state, that, having been well acquainted with Deacon S. for the last fifteen years, he could certify to the truth of all he had said concerning himself that evening.

Whereupon Deacon S. sprang up, his eyes sparkling with rage, and doubling his fist at Mr. B. exclaimed, "You lie sir! and I will flog you as soon as you get out of doors."

MESMERISM—AMPUTATION.

The subject of Animal Magnetism is one upon which there are a great variety of opinions, and about which, even among the believers in it, there are a variety of conflicting opinions, while there are others who think the matter a mere pretence—an exploded humbug fit only for ridicule. Of course we do not intend to enter the lists with any party in the controversy. We have had occasion repeatedly to acknowledge how greatly we have been perplexed respecting this subject, and the utter impossibility of our denying the existence of a mysterious something, called Animal Magnetism. This conviction has been greatly strengthened by a circumstance witnessed by us on Saturday last, a short account of which we purpose giving to our readers.

By invitation of Dr. Josiah Deane, we attended at the house of Mr. Luther Cary, in this city, for the purpose of witnessing an experiment in mesmerism and a surgical operation. There were present Doctors Deane, Hosea Rich and his son, George B. Snell, and Mason, John E. Godfrey, Esq., G. W. Ladd, J. M. Barnes, and ourselves.

The arrangement had all been made for amputating one of Mr. Cary's legs which from childhood has caused him much pain and inconvenience and which he had at length concluded to part with, after fifteen years weary companionship. The inducement for undergoing the operation at the present time was, that Dr. Deane had been very successful in repeated trials of inducing the magnetic state and to render him quite insensible to physical suffering.

Doctor Deane, on Saturday at about twenty five minutes succeeded notwithstanding the great anxiety of the patient, on account of the intended operation, in getting him into the magnetic state, when the work of amputation was commenced by Dr. Hosea Rich assisted by the others surgeons in attendance.

During the operation the patient complained of a sensation in the bottom of his foot, as though some one was pricking it, and at one time for a brief period, appeared to be rousing from the magnetic state, and half conscious, by suspicion at least, that the operation had commenced, and at this time there, was quite a struggle and much muscular action, but he was soon thrown more fully into the magnetic state, and was then quite unconscious of what was going on; entering into conversation respecting the operation, and proposing that it be postponed to the next week, &c., and insisting, even after the leg was amputated, that he would not have it done until it was fully paralyzed, at the same time expressing some doubt whether the Doctor would be able to accomplish this.

While the Doctor were dressing the knee, the organs of mirthfulness and tune were excited, and the patient amused the company by jolly laughter and by singing several tunes with much relish.

After the operation had been performed and the limb dressed, Mr. Cary was placed in his bed being still in the magnetic state, and was induced to sing. His aged, widowed mother was called, and entered the room just as he was singing with much zeal, which greatly affected the aged woman, and she burst into tears. Mr. Cary was now taken out of the magnetic sleep, and on rousing up appeared quite startled on seeing the company present; and, speaking to his sister and to his mother, a shade of sadness passed over his countenance, as he told them he had postponed having the operation performed until the Doctor should be more successful in paralyzing his leg. A passing smile over all countenances led him to suspect there might be something in the wind, and it then occurred to him that he was in bed, and in attempting to rise, he was cautioned not to do it, upon which he remarked that perhaps his leg was off, as he was placed in bed.

Upon being assured of the fact, he in great glee cried out, "Good! I am glad the old leg is off!" He then stated that the only sensation he had experienced was like that of some one pricking the bottom of his foot.

It may be necessary to say that the operation was somewhat protracted on account of the difficulties attending it, as all the parts were contracted and much deformed by disease. Mr. Cary, when we left, appeared very comfortable and happy, and much as though nothing unusual had happened, certainly as though he had not suffered at all from the operation.

It would afford much amusement to give the various remarks made by the patient and the little incidents that occurred, in detail, but we prefer a plain statement of the essential, sober facts in the case.—Bangor Courier.

TOWN COURT BILL.

We have received a copy of the new Town Court Bill now before the legislature. It is somewhat—but not essentially—different from the one vetoed by Gov. Kavanaugh. We give a synopsis:

1. There shall be established, in every city, town and plantation in this State, a court or courts of trial, as hereafter provided, each court to consist of one justice of trials, who shall be commissioned by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the council, and shall hold his office for the term of seven years. Said justice shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction of all suits of a civil nature, where the debt or other matter in demand, does not exceed one hundred dollars, excepting those actions where the title of real estate is put in issue by the pleadings in the case, by either party.

2. In every town or plantation having less than five hundred inhabitants, the governor may appoint one justice, and in every city, town or plantation, containing more than five hundred inhabitants, he shall appoint one such justice, and as have more than two thousand inhabitants he shall appoint an additional one, if requested by a legal vote of the town, legally passed at the annual meeting in March or April.

3. The Justices are to have the same criminal jurisdiction now provided by law, and may take cognizance of simple larceny up to twenty dollars.

4. A jury box is to be provided by the city or town. The jury may consist of six persons, if the plaintiff and defendant, in writing, before the justice, shall so agree before the same is summoned; and in default of said agreement, it shall consist of twelve persons.

Either party in any civil suit before said court of trial, shall be entitled to a trial by jury, when such party shall request the same of said justice, not more than ten and not less than seven days before the time of trial.

5. Appeal to the Supreme Court is allowed in all cases but the following:—
First—When judgment was rendered on non-suit or default.

Second—In all civil actions where the judgment or verdict rendered is not more than twenty dollars, debt or damage.

6. Any justice appointed under this act may appoint and employ, at his own expense, a recorder.

7. No justice of the peace or judge of any police or municipal court in any city, town or plantation, wherein said court of trial shall be established, shall exercise any civil or criminal jurisdiction, except under the authority of the United States, under a penalty of twenty dollars, to the use of the city, town or plantation, where the offence is committed, to be recovered in an action of debt, in any court proper to try the same.—Portland American.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, FEBRUARY 13, 1844.

"The great popular party is already rallied almost en masse around the banner which is leading the party to its final triumph. The few that still lag will soon be rallied under its ample folds. On that banner is inscribed: FREE TRADE; LOW DUTIES; SO LEAST SEPARATION FROM BANKS; ECONOMY; REFORM; AND STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION. Victory in such a cause will be great and glorious; and if its principles be faithfully and firmly adhered to, after it is achieved, much will be redound to the honor of those by whom it will have been won; and long will it perpetuate the liberty and prosperity of the country."—Calhoun.

REPORT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PRISON.
—This Report shows that the inmates of the State Prison have been remarkably healthy during the past year. One of the reasons assigned for this result is the small quantity of medicine taken. Two only have died during the past year; same number as in this State.

The Physician, in his report, says, "During the above time the physician has declined giving drugs to the convicts until fully satisfied in the first place that the applicant was sick. Secondly, that his malady was understood and susceptible of cure or relief. Thirdly, that the proposed drug was well adapted to benefit the patient, and not likely to leave any deleterious influence on the system."

These reasons for the management of the sick have reason and common sense on their side. They are fitted not merely for the convicts of a State Prison, but for the inhabitants of the whole country. What more reasonable than the requirement that a patient should be sick before he swallows medicine; or rather who is so much a dolt as to want medicine before he is sick? However absurd this may appear, it is often the case that convicts feign themselves sick in order to avoid labour or seek opportunities of escape. Therefore the necessity of close examination. Is it not the case sometimes that persons who are not confined within the walls of a prison, think themselves sick? If so, the propriety as well as benefit of deferring medicine of any kind is plainly seen. A patient should take medicine because he is really sick, not because he thinks so, or because he is afraid he shall be sick.

The last rule, "that the proposed medicine shall be well adapted to benefit the patient, and not likely to leave any deleterious influence on the system," is one of vast importance, and if followed out would produce a glorious reform in the practice of medicine. Poisons, such as Mercury and other medicines of the like, leave deleterious influences on the system, and by this rule are rejected. The time is soon coming when this drug and several others no better, will be thrown aside as not adapted to the cure of disease, but deleterious to the human system. The people who have learned most about these medicines by experience, have already become convinced that it is scientific to swallow such and such remedies, it is not always beneficial. Napoleon said it was "against reason and common sense to call a poison a medicine;" and firmly persisted, to the latest period of his life, in his refusal ever to take any drug containing poison. Community would do well to adopt the sentiment of Napoleon; at any rate, should they adopt it, they would not, as some are known to have done, suffer from the deleterious effects of certain unwholesome and poisonous drugs.

The Physician says, in closing his Report, "The result of this experimental inquiry is truly gratifying, as the mortality has diminished about one third, and I firmly believe, that the same plan of treating diseases in the great human family, would be highly beneficial to mankind, and tend to elevate the character of the medical profession."

THE INDEPENDENT CLAY CLUB.

The American contains some humorous reports of this imaginary colored Clay Club. On Thursday, Feb. 8 Jo Spattin relieved himself as follows:

Mr. Shiner:—I was greatly astonished at de las meetin dat de destruction ob yer two chilless should cause yer to brake up de meetin. If yer lub for Henry Clay, and de principles ob which he am de great defender, isn't stronger den de lub ob yer young wool heads, yer had better retire from de chair, and let yer place be occupied by some nigger what hab more philanthropie and less ob de soshal feelin. But, sar, as de great orator in de Roman Catholic Senate said,

"I does not ris to spend de night in words; Let pibly hens talk, for it is not me trade."

I had no more idee, Mr. President, dat Zeke, Gover hab so much skynce in him den I hab dat you are as good a man as I is.

But wid out furder talk, let us cum to de question, which am—'Hab de promise ob de whigs in 1840 been fulfilled?' I regret to say, Mr. Shiner, dat in one case

dey hab to de extinguishment ob de eyesight, which war de lawful property ob one ob my peepers.

You see, sar, dat I was a good sound loco, and woted for Jackson and Van Buren; but de whigs cum to me and hinted dat if I would come ober to dere interes dat I should hab dere influence. Well, sar, tinkin dat No. 1 was first law ob inter, I went ober to de couns. I jined da log cabin, and I singed de songs, until I ulcerated my lungs, upset my libber, dislocated de wind pipe, lost my conscience, upset de nerves, and destroyed de system.

In fine, sar, I made myself as big a nigger as any white dere be in de lot. Well, sar, de battle war fit, and de victory war victorious. But de gemmon what brought me ober followed up de game until he git a place at de crib ob government to feed on Uncle Sam's hay. Well one day after dis gran result, I was rather low in de filthy lucer, so I thought I would go to de gemmen what purchased me, and see if he would gib me de wharwith to git a little ob de stuff ob life.

I met him at de door and touched my hat in de mos approve style. As soon as I makes known my errand, he axes me, 'Who are you, yer brack scountril, dat come here beggin ob me?' At dat, sar, de dander 'gin to rise, and de locks ob wool 'gan to hug each oder mity snug.

'Who are I, ha?' says I. 'Is dat yer tale?' Why I is Jos Spattin, a dogatypie miniature ob de prodigal son what wasted his possum in riotous libbin; and, sar, says I, 'I hab ate hucks wid de swine long enuff, and now I want yer to be so good as yer word, and assist me a berry little.' 'Now look here,' says he, 'yer brack willin; if yer cum here agin insultin de feeling ob a public officer, I will gib yer a back hand ober de lookers.'

Well, sar, I cum away, tinkin to myself dat was not de entertainment to which I was invited. It was a great wife lore anoder one ob de whigs set a dog on me, and he grabbed me by de seat ob honer, and den went on his way leavin me to mourn under de stern realities of life, minus de poump. I tought den, sar, I would go up to de friend I called on fus to see if he wouldnt supply de embarrassin deficiency. So I goes up to de door and I habnt more den got my flippers on to de bell, 'fore he lit on me like a steam bulldoze, and applied de extreme ends ob his arms wid such force ober my countenance, dat he completely discombarberated one ob my eyes. Well, sar, I got home de best way I could, and de sunshine ob my remainin sky light convinced me dat he come up to his promise and no mistake. Now perhaps, sar, some ob de locos may say dat dis an eye-sore-lated case and dat de fulfillment ob dis promise war all in my eye; but, sar, de dat as it may, dis ain't de only whig promise which hab been realized by dis chile. And wid dis I close hab done.

Mr. Shiner then rose, and said: 'Gemmen!—I am almost oberpowered wid de eloquence and-truth ob yer remarks, and I couldnt stoid to hear any more. So I will gib yer de quesshun for de next meetin which are, 'What year ob influence ob de hard-cider campaign on de morals ob de people?'—Portland American.

INFAMOUS OUTRAGE.

NEAL DOW, Esq., while passing down Exchange street yesterday forenoon, was struck from behind and knocked down. The scoundrel was arrested, but some rowdies bustling around for the purpose he succeeded in breaking loose; he was retaken in a house at the corner of Union and Fore street. A large crowd collected, and threats of rescue were freely uttered, but unaccomplished. Henry B. Hart, Esq., pulled from the fellow's bosom a cowardly, the ownership of which is well known. It is said that the man is a stranger in the city. There is no question but that he was hired for the purpose.

Now, what was the object? It was in revenge for Mr. Dow's denunciation of the traffic in intoxicating liquors. This every body admits. But if rum-sellers think they can stay the tide of temperance, or to stop the mouth of such a man as Neal Dow, by such attacks they are mightily mistaken. It is indeed full time that these rum shops should be closed up by the strong arm of the law, if the persons and perhaps the lives of our citizens are to be thus jeopardized.

This man was without doubt hired, as we have before intimated, to commit this dastardly act. The public have already surmised by whom. We hope the investigation will be followed up, until the responsibility rests upon the right shoulders. Port. Amer.

The person who done this deed had his trial before the Municipal Court on Wednesday. There was an immense rush of people to the Court room. He called his name Samuel Stevens. After the testimony had been given in, he was bound over in the sum of \$300 to answer at the March term of the District Court.—Committed.

A SHORT SESSION.—It is thought by the people in this section of the State, and we presume in all others, that it full time the Legislature should adjourn, and we trust our friends will consult their own good and the public interests and wishes, in despatching the little business before them with as much rapidity as possible.

The subject of the State printing, whatever may be thought of it at Augusta, we are confident is regarded abroad as the merest trifling, by which hundreds of dollars are sunk in debating whether the Age or the Argus shall be employed to execute the public printing, it is a matter of public indifference. It is a mere pecuniary matter between the two publishers, neither of whom has any special claim to the job, or is so important that the two houses should be occupied so long upon the question, and with so great waste of words, and time and money. If it is continued much longer, the people may well exclaim, 'A plague on both your houses, Age and Argus.'

The new Valuation is not yet reported, and I trust it will be left in the hands of the committee, to be reported to the next Legislature, for some weeks' debate upon the subject will not be advantageous neither to the State nor the members.—Republican Journal.

Gen. Jackson will be 77 years of age on the 14th of March next.

PROSPECTS AHEAD.

We have great reason to rejoice as members of the great Republican Party that the different feelings and interests of its friends are unity and coalescing on the important subject of the Presidency. We see in it the harbinger of success.—We feel assurance in our hope and strength as well as justice in our cause. The Whigs as usual, are endeavoring to produce division in our ranks, by calling the friends of Mr. Calhoun hard names and reproachful epithets, for coming forward manfully to the support of Mr. Van Buren. They may as well abandon their object. We feel sure they will find but little sympathy among the friends of Mr. Calhoun, who, if possible, are greater opponents of whig policy and principles than are the friends of Mr. Van Buren.

The Calhoun Members of the State Convention, of Virginia have issued an address to the people of that State, declaring it their conviction and duty to rally against Henry Clay in favor of the nominee of the National Convention.

CAUCUS SYSTEM.

Mr. Editor.—Not long since I saw an article in the Democrat condemning the present caucus system, and recommending a different method of selecting candidates for office. That there are objections to the present system no one, who is acquainted with facts, will deny, and the substitute recommended, I think, would be but little better. Suppose the inhabitants of every town in a Congressional District met on a certain day, cast their votes, each town send the name of their favorite candidate to the District Committee, and they declare the gentleman having the most votes duly selected: would this be getting at a public expression of the popular will? A dozen candidates might be voted for and the one having the most votes in such a case would be selected by a small minority; the consequence would be a general "bolting," and no choice. Again, demagogues, and dishonest politicians, would have an opportunity to carry on their operations secretly, without any fear of having their intrigues exposed by an open convention. These reasons, without adding others which with great propriety might be urged, are sufficient to condemn a system of this kind.

I go against all other systems and in favor of "taking the stump." If a man wants to go to Congress, let him come out openly and say so, and then present his opinions publicly before the people; they then can correctly judge whether they want his services or not. But I will give a few reasons for my preferences for this last named system.

First.—Candidates would be relieved from a great embarrassment, under which they now have to labour. It is well known that candidates for Congress now canvass their several Districts, but they have to do so comparatively in a secret manner, instead of mingling with the common people, they go among particular friends, and thus the voters are pulled secretly. Now let this immodest modesty be thrown off—let candidates go through their several Districts, and mingle with the masses, instead of urging their claims to a few in secret—let them boldly declare their principles in public.

This leads me directly to my second reason, which is this, a course like this would give a candidate confidence in the people and the people confidence in him. The present system is exactly the reverse of this—the people watch every movement of a candidate with a jealous eye, and he in turn looks upon them with strong suspicion.

Fourthly.—This system affords an opportunity for the people to become familiarly acquainted with the political doctrines of a candidate. When he addresses the people, he is expected to give an open exposition of his views upon the great political questions of the day—if he conceals aught, he is interrogated: thus his private political opinions become the public property of the great mass of the electors. Under the present system, but few have any knowledge, further than common report, what are the peculiar tenets of their candidates; thus they are frequently deceived and cheated, and aid in elevating men to high and responsible stations, without any definite knowledge of their principles.

Fifthly.—The "stump" system is a direct channel through which the great body of the people can derive much useful instruction; comparatively, but a small portion of the people are well informed upon the great questions of political economy—for the good reason that they do not possess the means of information. Many are too poor to take the periodicals of the day—while others have but little time to peruse them; hence they have to depend upon others for nearly all the knowledge they acquire or possess. Now let them occasionally assemble together—listen to expositions of principles as given by their candidates, &c. they cannot fail of receiving much useful information. They will then be better prepared to judge how they are in duty bound to act, when exercising the most sacred privilege given to free men.

The last reason I shall now urge in support of this system, is the fact that a man thus publicly pledged to support certain principles, will seldom prove recreant to those by whose suffrages he has been elevated to office. Thus a party would have a greater security against those men who are disposed to turn traitors to their friends after they are elected.

Thus, Mr. Editor, I have very briefly given the outline of certain reasons which have convinced me that the Southern and Western mode of selecting candidates for office is far preferable to our own. The objections, which are generally urged against this system, can be easily answered. If any of your readers, who think differently upon this subject from the views here advanced, wish to discuss the subject of the "stump system," with your gracious permission, Mr. Editor, I will meet them half way through the columns of the Democrat. We all want the best practicable system.—What think, Democrats, shall we have the "stump system?" A PLAINMAN.

February, 1844.

TRANSPARE.—The Legislature of this State had passed Resolutions in favor of distorting the proceeds of the public lands.

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What constitutes true greatness in politicians, at the present day, seems not easily defined, or well understood. Some, rushing upon the stage, claim to be oracles before they are voters; overturning "ancient landmarks," and new modeling party organs to meet their own ambitious views, producing distrust in those who have been accustomed to attach some degree of merit to candidates for office, as naturally connected with a proper discharge of duty—and an unwillingness to follow their rash designs, in those to whom has been accorded the deserved meed of praise, as faithful servants of the people.

These men determined to be great, will be so, tho' to secure the appellation they become great villains even.

But this age, fertile with invention, has fixed a new standard for the measure of human greatness, or rather the old standard of brute measure is now used for human beings, and as it is not laid down in the new Arithmetic, I will furnish a key by telling an old but true story.

A facetious old gentleman, in the town of D. in this County, vexed with the oft repeated depredation of the old female swine upon his potato field and garden, determined at length to apply a yoke to her neck made of four pieces of timber, two of which, applied to the throat and nape of the neck, horizontally, pinned by two others in a perpendicular position pressing the sides. There was no trouble in assigning a proper place of operation, as the lean, lank sides of the animal, of which two would scarce make a shadow, often reposed under an old bench in the back kitchen.

This, then, was the place, and the next time the old sow occupied it, the door was shut; but the difficulty was in fitting up—for first, the horizontal pieces were too wide, and the yoke slipped off over the head; next, the perpendicular pins were too long, and her legs got through, so that the old farmer became exceedingly puzzled in obtaining a correct measurement, when the old sow broke from her confinement and with a single bound cleared the room through a pane of glass, that broke in fragments as she passed, with the speed of an arrow. "There, d—n her, Sam," said the old man, now I can fix the yoke. I've got the dimensions of her—just seven by nine!"

MEASUREMENT.

LEGISLATURE.—On Saturday, 10th, and Monday, 12th inst. the Senate and House were occupied in discussing the Portland and Bath Rail Road, State road in Washington County, the Sluiceway, and the Resolves in relation to Elections. Many other things passed certain stages of Legislation.

Finally passed—Resolve authorizing the Land Agent to improve the Eastern Aroostook Road.

Senate.—The Oxford Rail Road Company were allowed a longer time to complete the survey of their route. A Bill was passed to be engrossed empowering the Selectmen to license Innholders and Victuallers, excepting the grant to sell spirituous liquors. The Bath and Portland Rail Road Co. are to be exempted from taxation for three years. Mr. Tolman of Bath, introduced an amendment to the Bill of Incorporation exempting the property of the company from taxation six years, but after considerable discussion the amendment was lost, 17 to 9.

In House.—Passed to be enacted, Bill to incorporate the Kennebec Mutual Fire Insurance Company. There came up a Bill introduced to incorporate the Laconia Company—at cotton manufacturing company in Saco. The following remarks of Mr. Jarvis are worthy of attention. They indicate that a new course of policy should be pursued in this State in relation to Manufactures.

Mr. Jarvis of Surry supported the bill at considerable length. He said that the policy of the State in reference to manufacturing corporations was as yet in a state of transition; and that the time was now arrived when it should be settled with some degree of permanency. He spoke of the change produced in reference to the agricultural prospects of this State in the opening of the Great Western Rail Road—by which the producers of the vast valley of the Mississippi were brought in competition with those of our own sterile soil, in the Atlantic cities. That change, had made necessary a change in our pursuits of labor, compelling us to rely more upon our manufacturing capacities, instead of agricultural. Mr. J. contended that the public would be as safe under the provision of this bill, as under those of the general law of 36.

Maine must be a manufacturing State. The Great Western Rail Road, as Mr. Jarvis truly says, must change the occupation of the people. The Bill finally passed to be engrossed, 99 to 29.

In Senate.—Wednesday, Feb. 14. Assigned a Bill to incorporate the Waldo Mineral Spring Company. Why do not individuals petition for the incorporation of a Paris Mineral Spring in this town, not excellent, we venture to say, by any in the State, if it is by any in the United States. Legislation inexpedient was reported on so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the transfer the costs in criminal prosecutions from the State to the Counties.

In House.—Finally passed, Resolve in favor of Geo. W. Maxim. A debate arose on the Resolve appropriating \$1000 for the education of the youth in Madawaska settlement. It finally passed 97 to 32.

In Senate.—Thursday, Feb. 15. Finally passed, Resolve in favor of Geo. W. Morrison. Passed to be engrossed, Bill to incorporate the Waldo Mineral Spring Company, & Resolve in favor of R. G. Greene. In House.—The Bill incorporating the Pepperell Manufacturing Company passed to be engrossed, 98 to 33.

APPOINTMENTS.—The New York Herald says that the President has made up his mind to send in the following nominations.

Gilmer of Virginia, Secretary of Navy.
Wilkins of Pennsylvania, Secretary of War.
Shannon of Ohio, Minister to France.
Judge May of New York, Judge of the Supreme Court.

Read the case of Mesmerism and Amputation published in our paper of to-day. The Editor of the Bangor Courier relates it as a case which he witnessed in all its features. Is not this proof that Mesmerism is in some of its forms a reality.

A Petition is before the Legislature asking assistance from the State to straighten and repair the road from Augusta to Colbrook, N. H. through Dixfield, Mexico, Andover and Letter B.

"Plebeian" has thrown down the glove in earnest. Will not some of our Democratic friends give him a broad side next week. We are somewhat opposed to the doctrine of "P." yet we are open to conviction. Our columns are ready.

Mississippi Senator.—General Jesse Speight, (dem.) was elected on the 9th ult. by the Mississippi Legislature, as U. S. Senator for six years from the 4th of March, 1845.

The vote in relation to Mr. Henshaw's nomination in Senate was 8 in favor and 34 against him. Mr. Wise was confirmed as Minister to Brazil, 30 to 10.

A Cass and Johnson meeting was to take place at Augusta last evening. It was called by "many citizens of Gardener."

CONGRESS.—The business in Congress from Feb. 7 to Feb. 10 was a discussion on the Tariff in the Senate.—The House occupied on the Report of the Committee on Elections.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

Agreeably to public notice the Democratic Republicans of York County (representing York Congressional District) met in convention at the Court House in Alfred at 7 o'clock, P. M. on the 14th day of February instant, for the purpose of choosing a Delegate to the Democratic National Convention, to be held at Baltimore in May next in place of Charles N. Cogswell, previously chosen Delegate, now deceased.

The meeting was organized by the choice of Stephen Woodman, of Buxton, as Chairman, and Alpheus A. Hanscom, of Saco, as Secretary.

On motion of Levi J. Ham, voted to raise a committee of one from each town in the county to nominate a Delegate and substitute to the Democratic National Convention.

The Committee retired, and on motion of Mr. Lewis of Kittery, Hon. Nathan Clifford, of Newfield, was invited to address the meeting.

Mr. Clifford complied with the request; and after briefly alluding to the object of the meeting said his own preference in regard to candidates for the Presidency was well known to the people of this county—the course of Martin Van Buren's cotemporaries who had been named as candidates, was such as to put an end to all controversy in regard to the matter.—Mr. Van Buren was without question the candidate of the Democracy for the highest office in their gift. It became the Democratic party to be united and prepare for the coming contest, and not be lulled into supine security, as the battle could not be won without effort. The enemies of Democracy were holding diplomatic feasts—making compromises—forgetting former enemies—and even giving up their principles, for the sake of union of action against the Democratic party. They would spare no effort to concentrate their forces.

From present indications, they would repeat again all the falsehood, misrepresentation, and untruths of 1840. Their leader had already set the example by cutting an ash pole to bear the standard of the heterogeneous troops. He had thought that the next contest would be one of principle, but he was of a different opinion now—no one knew what whig principles were—they would resort to every means to conceal their real sentiments till in power. It is well understood here at the North that Clay was high a tariff man—but in order to his success it was necessary to conciliate the South and Southwest, and there, by his letters, he had endeavored to give the impression that he was a free trade man—at least more so than Mr. Van Buren. From the course of their leaders, we may judge of the next contest. The democracy should be united and ready to meet them. He was glad York County was united in the contest between Democracy and Federalism—they could not be deceived by whig promises—they knew they never would be redeemed.

The committee now came in, and reported, by their Chairman, Wm. A. Hayes, that they had nominated HON. NATHAN CLIFFORD of Newfield as Delegate, & JAMES OSBORNE Esq. of Kennebunk as substitute.

Mr. Clifford rose and said, that among the many favors he had received from the Democracy of York County, none had been more grateful to his feelings than the one now bestowed.—His views on the subject of the Presidential nomination were already well known, and no further avowal of them was necessary.

Mr. Simon Lewis of Kittery addressed the Convention, briefly, upon the coming contest, and expressed a hope that the Democracy would be united and firmly adhere to their principle.

Mr. Tuck of Parsonsfield, offered the following Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, the meeting rising in their favor.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting it is the duty of the Legislature, to keep down the expense of the government; the most obvious and practical way to do which is a summary session.

Resolved, That considering the State has recently been at great expense in revising the laws, and that our citizens fondly believing they would have the character of permanency, have provided themselves with the statutes prescribing their duties and furnishing the rules by which they hold and manage their property, we consider it unwise and of pernicious consequence to change them until they are fully understood by the people and their operation fully ascertained by the test of time and experience.

Resolved, That the long established system of judicial proceedings, handed down to us by our ancestors of many generations, and made familiar by our habits and practice under it, should not be changed for doubtful schemes and experiments in legislation that would oblige the quiet citizen to resort to legal advice and assistance for a knowledge of his rights and duties under such novel and untried regulations.

Resolved, That the trial by a jury of twelve men has been justly esteemed the great safeguard

of the right of the citizen and one of the glories and distinguishing traits of free government, any insidious attempts, therefore, under pretence of economy or otherwise to change their character or diminish their number, should be looked upon with jealousy and meet the frowns of every patriot and friend of free and liberal institutions.

Whereas, considering the recent revision of the public laws, and state of the Treasury and public debt, the people have expected the legislature would with all convenient despatch, to the necessary and special legislation for the State, and not waste their time and increase their expenses and burdens by discussing undue projects and untried experiments on the administration of justice and the execution of the laws, or for changing the public statutes at so much expense, digested and promulgated. Therefore,

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives from York Districts be requested and instructed to use their best endeavors to meet the expectations of their constituents and close the session at an early day, to prolong which under any pretence cannot meet the approbation of this meeting.

Resolved, That the President and Secretary send a copy of these resolves to the Senators from York Senatorial District, and cause the same to be published in the Maine Democrat.

Voted, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the President and Secretary, and published in the Maine Democrat, Oxford Democrat, Argus and American Portland, and other Democratic papers will copy the same.

STEPHEN WOODMAN, Chairman.
ALPHEUS A. HANSCOM, Secretary.

YANKEE INGENUITY EXHAUSTED.—The most extraordinary invention, in our opinion, of the present times, is "Palmer's Endless Self-Computing Scale," which we have just examined. Our age is marked by what may be termed a utilitarian character; but most of its inventions are but alterations or improvements upon existing works. This, however, proceeds upon a plan entirely new, and forms what we supposed, was the least possible to make—a mental labor machine; a machine to save intense study, do up our thinking, and bring out mathematical results. It is designed to solve all mathematical problems mechanically.—It consists of a logarithmic combination of numbers on one or more circles, one of which revolves within the other. Computations that have required several days to perform, are wrought out by this scale in a few moments, and that without any strong mental exertion. It performs all the operations in arithmetic and geometry, its application being as boundless as the application of figures themselves.—Boston Traveller.

The proposition to fix the election of Presidential electors in this state, on the same day as in Massachusetts, created quite a storm in the House yesterday. Fair play is not what the leaders of federalism want. 1840 showed them the advantage of voting their men twice over; first in Massachusetts and then in Maine. They do not relish a change, which threatens to break up the business of their flying corps of mercenaries.—Age.

The Calis (Me.) Journal states that a flock of ferocious Luperciviers, numbering some five or six, have been seen a number of times within a few days but a short distance from that village.—One man says he saw them in the road and that it was with great difficulty that he could force them to leave the premises or give him a pass.

A young girl was up before the Recorder of N. Orleans, for appearing in the public streets in boy's clothes. The Recorder asked her if she was married, and having received a reply in the negative, he decided that, although married women, by conventional usages, were allowed sometimes to assume that dress, single ladies never were.

VERY TRUE.—Franklin was an observing and sensible man, and his conclusions seldom incorrect. He said, "A newspaper and a Bible in every good school in every district, all studied and appreciated as they merit, are the principal supports of virtue, morality and civil liberty."

CLAY CLUBS—A NEW MOTTO.—The Cincinnati Sun says that among a number of mottoes for banners recently suggested in a Whig print, in noticed the following which is at once descriptive both of the Candidate and the principles of the party. "Clay Clubs and Spades, bore aloft by the productive interests, with the motto We Win." The Sun accompanies the above with the following pointed and just reflections:

Capital! None will dispute that a pack of cards will better illustrate the character of the Whig candidate, than any other possible device. But who is meant by the "productive interests," in this gambling connection? Certainly not the farmers and mechanics for they "win" by the plough and hammer! Aye, we have it; the editor means that "interest" which has been so "productive" of mischief in the country, money manufacturers, the makers of the late Bankrupt Law, the men who prostitute legislation to private purposes, and to rob the widow and the fatherless through National Banks. This is the productive interest that Whiggery sustains, and it is proper they should be marshalled under the "Club and Spade," the legitimate tools of the craft. "Hang out your banner on the outer wall."

Miller and the second advent cause continue to draw crowds of people at the Tabernacle, where Mr. Miller himself has been preaching in full houses for a week, and is expected to continue to-day and to-morrow; after which, the Rev. Mr. Jones, who a few weeks since preached to general acceptance, will continue to preach for some weeks to come. From the great number of people who daily throng the Tabernacle and listen with attention to what is there said, there appears to be no abatement of zeal or earnestness in this cause, and no want of confidence in the principle held out, although

the expiration of the time (the ensuing spring) is so near at hand. Mr. Miller appears to have fully recovered his health, and to have renewed his youth and vigor.—Boston Post.

CASS AND JOHNSON MEETING.

We have received a notice, over the signature of "many citizens of Gardiner," for such a meeting to be holden here next Monday evening, at the New Court House, for the purpose of "developing public sentiment" in this District.

The right of the friends of Messrs Cass and Johnson, to hold such meeting, is not denied, and so far as they believe it to be practicable to operate upon the approaching National Convention by demonstration of that sort, we are willing to admit that they are acting in a manner, which according to their view of future probabilities, is perfectly fair and legitimate.

But as it seems to us, the nomination of Mr. Van Buren is nearly as certain as any future event can be, and cannot, at any rate, be prevented by any movement to be made here.—What then, can be the effect of such movement, beyond distracting and confusing our common council? They cannot aid Gen. Cass, or Col. Johnson. They cannot fail to injure Mr. Van Buren. We do not impute that motive to the originators of these movements, but we invite their attention to this, their obvious and natural effect.

We have been of those, who have thought that a new nomination would secure an easier victory, than the nomination of Mr. Van Buren. We think so still. But we believe also, that Mr. Van Buren can be elected, and that it is the duty of every democrat to assist in his election. He will be nominated, beyond any reasonable question, and it is high time that the work of consolidating our ranks should be undertaken in good earnest.

The agitation of other names, as matters now stand, only tends to distraction, division and disunion. We do not impeach the motive of any who are concerned in such agitation, but we beg them to think again before they act.—Augusta Age.

From the Pittsburg Chronicle.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—We have been informed on good authority that an inhabitant of the Keystone State has discovered the secret of manufacturing artificial marble on natural principles. The discoverer is a Yankee by birth, and has devoted many years to the theoretical and practical architecture.

We have been shown a specimen of Lime stone prepared by the above method, and unhesitatingly pronounce it superior to any artificial stone or marble that we have ever seen.—The discoverer feels assured that his preparation has only to be publicly introduced in order to supersede the use of lime mortar, in the varied processes of plastering, and will be extensively used for stucco-work, mosaic, statuary, marble-pieces, table slabs, atmospheric and hydraulic cement, roofing of houses, and paving of streets, &c. It will set or harden in six hours when applied in plastering houses. It will resist the action of atmospheric heat, damp, frost, &c., and is susceptible of a high polish. This composition will answer better than roman cement for aqueducts locks of canals, &c. Its best recommendation, however, is its cheapness, as it can be manufactured at a cost little exceeding ordinary lime mortar. We recommend this material to Congress, and hope that all the public buildings that may hereafter be erected will be so constructed as to rival the Pyramids in durability.

STOPPING BLEEDING FROM THE NOSE.—Dr. Negrier, of Angiers, France, has published a new method of stopping bleeding from the nose. The following induced him to try the plan:

"Some years ago, I cut myself under the nose while shaving. The blood flowed copiously from this petty wound, and I could not stop it, either with court plaster or by cauterizing with the nitrate of silver. By chance, however, I lifted up both my arms at once to reach something, and I saw, to my great surprise, that the flow of blood, which was copious just before immediately stopped. I lowered my arms, and the hemorrhage began again; I again lifted them up, and again the blood immediately stopped. In this way I renewed and stopped the flow five or six times, in order to convince myself perfectly that the sudden raising of the arms was really the cause of the hemorrhage. Lastly, I kept my arms raised for one or two minutes; and during this period a plastic crust formed upon the cut, which put a final stop to the hemorrhage." The following case, being one of those reported by the author, will show his method of proceeding:—"April, 1839. A chimney-sweep, aged fourteen, had already lost two hundred grammes (six ounces) of blood from the right nostril. The blood was still flowing very fast. I had the boy placed with his head high; then, with the forefinger of the left hand, I compressed the nostril from which the blood was flowing, while doing this I made him lift up his right arm perpendicularly, telling him to keep it so for two minutes; the hemorrhage had stopped in ten seconds."

REVOLUTIONARY CHARACTER, named Abel Carpenter, eld recently at Lyndon, Vt., in his 89th year. He lived at Providence, R. I., on the breaking out of the Revolution, in which he was first a soldier, then a lieutenant then quarter master; was stationed at Roxbury on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill, was wounded at Harlem Heights, was one of the 400 that repulsed 2000 British at Fort Mifflin, and was in the battle of Monmouth. The North Star relates an incident at this evacuation of

Newport by the British, which shows his firmness of nerve.

"To prevent the Americans from crossing from Newport to the main land, they took up the bridge, except the stringers. Gen. Lafayette was desirous of passing the bridge, but its height and length made his head whirl, and it was impossible for him to cross without assistance; and it was difficult to render it. Mr. Carpenter volunteered, and did it the only practicable way, and that was by walking backward the whole distance, and leading the General by the hand—they performed this perilous enterprise in safety, and thus out-generalled the enemy."

SLAVERY IN OREGON.—A Methodist missionary in our far Western territory, in a communication published in the Western Christian Advocate, says that slavery in that country has existed from time immemorial. The stronger tribes make war on the weaker, take prisoners and enslave them. And many of the settlers, both French and American, buy and sell slaves. By these most of the work of the farmers is done.

READ THIS.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills. THE virtues of these Pills are now cheerfully and universally acknowledged by their great popularity and extensive circulation, and few who peruse this article will be found unacquainted with some proofs of their real excellence, and many will be ready to add the testimonials of their own experience in favor of this delightful medicine.

WRIGHT'S INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS are designed to ASSIST NATURE in restoring the various organs to a healthy action, by CLEANSING the stomach and bowels, and PURIFYING the whole system from those morbid and corrupt humors which in most cases are the cause of disease, and thus gives to the patient health, richness, and cheerfulness for discharges.

The unparalleled success which has attended the use of these Pills has introduced some unprincipled persons to manufacture a SPURIOUS ARTICLE, which they endeavor to palm off on the unsuspecting as the GENUINE MEDICINE, hence the importance of purchasing only of the regular advertised Agents.

N. B. Remember Thomas Crocker is the only regular authorized Agent for the sale of the above invaluable medicine in this Village, and do not purchase elsewhere, if you would be sure of obtaining the GENUINE MEDICINE.—last 34

DIED.

In Turner, 30th ult. Mrs. Zilphie, wife of Hon. Jos. Prince aged 44 years.

Oxford Washingtonian Convention.

In view of the present state of the Washingtonian enterprise, the Washingtonians of Sumner invite their brethren and all friendly to the cause of Temperance in this County to meet in Convention on Wednesday the 6th day of March next, at 10 o'clock A. M. at the Congregational Meeting House in Sumner, to adopt such measures as may be thought best for carrying forward the glorious cause of Washingtonian Temperance. An Address may be expected on the occasion from some one of the advocates of the cause.

Fellow citizens—Labourers in this great and good cause, is it not high time to awake and take hold of this work with renewed vigor and energy, and finish it up in good style? Come up then, to this meeting with resolute hearts, fixed purposes, kindling philanthropy and burning zeal. Come with a fixed and unwavering purpose to carry forward the cause of Temperance till the work drunkard shall be but a relic of the past; a distillery only known in history, and a dram shop found but in the records of former days.

By request of the Washingtonians of Sumner.
Sumner, Feb. 15, 1844. ZURY ROBINSON.

Gould's Academy in Bethel.

THE SPRING TERM of Gould's Academy, in Bethel, will commence WEDNESDAY, the 6th of March, to continue twelve weeks.

The Classical and High English Departments will continue under the care of Mr. E. B. BARTLETT, The Modern Languages and general English Department, under the care of Mr. ARTHUR GUYTON.

The flattering success which has always attended these much experienced young gentlemen in their efforts to instruct the young gives the Trustees of the Institution assurance that it will continue to receive that share of public patronage which it has had in former times.

There is connected with the Academy for the benefit of students, a Library and Cabinet, conducted by the officers of the Literary Society.

Board in good families, (including lights and wood) for \$1.00 to \$1.25. Tuition, \$3.00 per quarter.

WILLIAM FRYE, Secretary.

Bethel, Feb. 2, 1844.

State of Maine.

Oxford, ss.—Western District Court, Nov. Term, 1843.

JAMES STEELE, of Guildhall, in the County of Essex and State of Vermont, Esquire, Plaintiff, v. Charles H. Post, of Byron in the County of Oxford, Yeoman, Defendant, In a plea of the case, in which the plaintiff declares upon a note of hand given by the defendant to the plaintiff for forty-eight dollars on demand and interest, dated August 4th, 1837, which though often requested the defendant has not paid. To the damage of the plaintiff (as he says) the sum of one hundred dollars.

It being suggested to the Court that at the time of the service of the Plaintiff's writ the defendant was out of the State and has had no notice of this suit.—It is therefore Ordered, That the plaintiff cause the substance of the Plaintiff's Writ and this Order of Court thereon, to be published in the Oxford Democrat, printed at Paris in said county of Oxford, three weeks successively, the first publication to be at least thirty days before the next Term of this Court, to be holden at said Paris, on the second Tuesday of June next; that the defendant may then and there appear and, if he see cause, defend against this suit.

Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.

The foregoing is the substance of the Plaintiff's Writ and a copy of the Order of Court thereon.

Attest—J. G. COLE, Clerk.

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Administrators of the ESTATE.

By virtue of a License from the Court of Probate for the County of Oxford, I shall sell at public Auction on Saturday the 30th day of March next at one o'clock P. M. as much of the real estate of

HEZELIAH PRYANT,

late of Turner in said County, deceased, as will produce the sum of three hundred and seventy-five dollars, for the payment of the debts of said deceased, charges of administration, &c. Said estate consists of the farm on which Jacob Allen now lives, being the Southerly half of Lot numbered 260 in said town of Turner. Sale on the premises, and terms made known at the time and place of sale.

JOB PRINCE, Administrator.

Turner, February 16, 1844.

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Notice of Foreclosure.

On the second day of November, 1842, Axel Decatur, then of Buckfield in the County of Oxford, made and executed to me the subscriber, a mortgage deed of that date of a certain lot of land situated in Byron in said County, being the lot numbered One in the Fifteenth Range of Lots in said township, containing by estimation one hundred acres, more or less, conditioned for the payment of certain notes of hand there mentioned, which deed is recorded in the Oxford Register of Deeds, where reference may be had. And whereas, the conditions of said mortgage having been broken, by reason thereof, I herby claim to foreclose said mortgage agreeably to the Statute.

ANDREW DROWY.

Byron, February 12, 1844.

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